

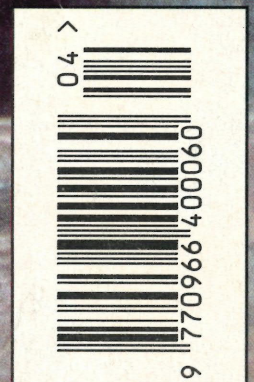
GAME BOY EXCITEMENT

GB ACTION

APRIL 1995 £2.50

SPORTS SPECIAL:
Fifa Soccer
Wacky Sports
Lamborghini
Plus many more
classic games
reviewed inside!

FLINTSTONES
REVIEWED!



SEGA

ISSUE 40 APRIL 1995 £2.50 US\$6.50



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GB ACTION

SPORTS AND PLATFORM

S P E C I A L

Well here we are again with another high quality edition of your favourite Game Boy mag **G B Action** . Things simply keep on getting better around here . This month we bring you all the usual excellent reviews of games both past and present . This month we have a Spider-Man special where a couple of our writers try to get to grips with some of the finest in comic book hero adventure . They try and work out exactly which of these games is the best and if they deserve to be a success . We also bring you a look at Oceans latest offering ,The Flinstones . How has Fred converted to a non techni-color Game Boy format and does he still hold that old allure ? Also as you will probably now know FIFA Soccer is at last on the shelves . We had it several months ago for a sneak pre-

view . Now we give it the once over once more to see if the hype has been worth while . On top of this we take a look at two older sporting games, Wacky Sports and Lamborghini American Challenge . How great are these classics ? On top of this there's our usual Manga vid spot . What more could you want ? Next month we hope to bring you a puzzler special and if possible a few more old sporting favourites along with of course the latest reviews .

Toby Gunton, Editor

THE GANG

Marcus Lane
This month I get to take a look at both the Flinstones and FIFA Soccer . One is a great deal better than the other and kept me sane against all odds on one of my rare adventures into

public transport .

Richard Attock

Spider-Man gets the treatment from my reviewing skills as I look at one of his classic games and a couple of older sport sims that I reckon deserve a little more attention .

Ray Hall

I'm a huge Spidey fan so don't expect an objective view from me . I was only called in to take a look over some of these classics . So I did for several hours and several sets of batteries .

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GB ACTION

PURE COLOUR GAM



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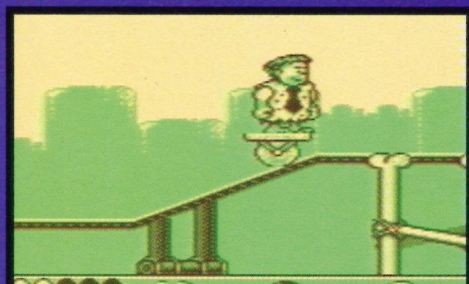
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SPORTS GAMES AND PLATFORM SPECIAL!



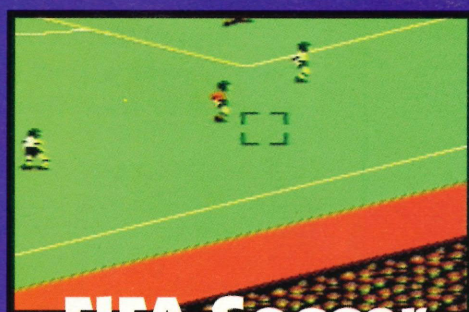
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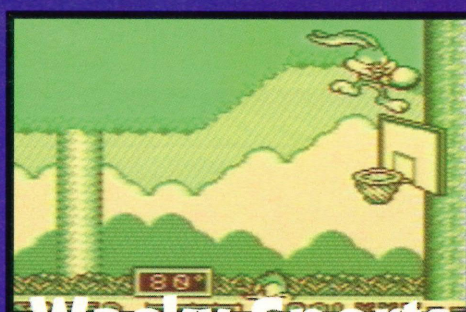
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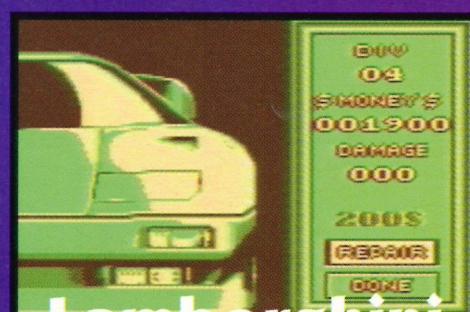
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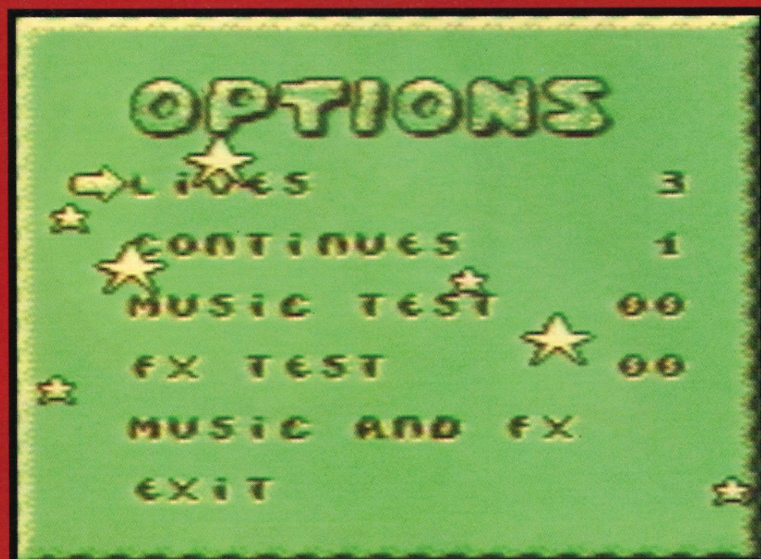
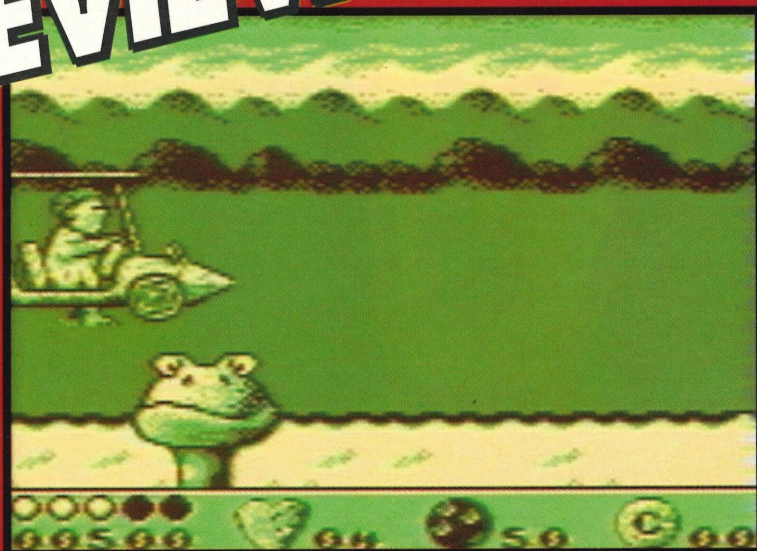
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FLINTSTON

It's the latest offering from Ocean and it's all about that time honoured stone age loveable rogue . Yes it's The Flintstones . You've seen the cartoon ,you've seen the film ,you've bought the merchandise so surely it's time to buy the game . Well someone obviously thinks so and expects to make even more money from one of the oldest licensee options .

I have to be totally honest with you ,when the Flintstone film came out I was shocked . To me this was sacrilege . Fred was a cartoon character and nothing else as far as I was concerned . I immediately made a conscious decision not to see the film and quite frankly I've got absolutely no idea what so ever if its even come out yet . I've let the whole thing pass me by and I'm glad . The gods of commercial money making had gone a step to far ,as far as I was concerned . How could they ever possibly hope to recreate the amusement of those old yet timeless cartoons that so frequently appear on our sets . To me it would merely shatter the images I'd been brought up with . However where there's any well known character ,be they animal or human ,hero or rogue ,cartoon or comic character if they exist and the licensee can be brought



then somebody will because they know that we'll lap up anything they can hastily get together and chuck at us . We are without doubt a race of consumers to whom everything isn't enough . Don't get me wrong ,I'll consume with the best of them ,I'll take as

many Japanese electrical goods as you can throw at me and as many Italian supercars as I can fit into the driveways of as many houses as I can afford ,oh ,and I'll eat until the cows come home . Despite all this ,despite the fact that Thatchers Britain turned

me into a greedy self centred rat ,there are things that I hold dear ,and quite frankly Fred Flintstone and his mates are right up there with the best . Having said all this I do think that if it hadn't been for the strengths of commercial powers

"A good film doesn't always mean a good game as we all to often discover"

then quite possibly we might have missed out on some of the computer games of the decade . A good film doesn't always mean a good game as we all to often discover ,but this also means that a bad film doesn't always mean a bad game . Don't get me wrong I'm not making a comment on the Flintstone film ,I am here however to make a comment on the Flintstone

Game .

As with all good games you need to set the scene before you leap into multi level mayhem . Where would we be without a storyline ,we'd be performing a series of useless tasks for no apparent reason . In this game the story goes something like this . Good old Fred Flintstone has after many years of toil at the Slate Co been given a promotion . However this promotion has

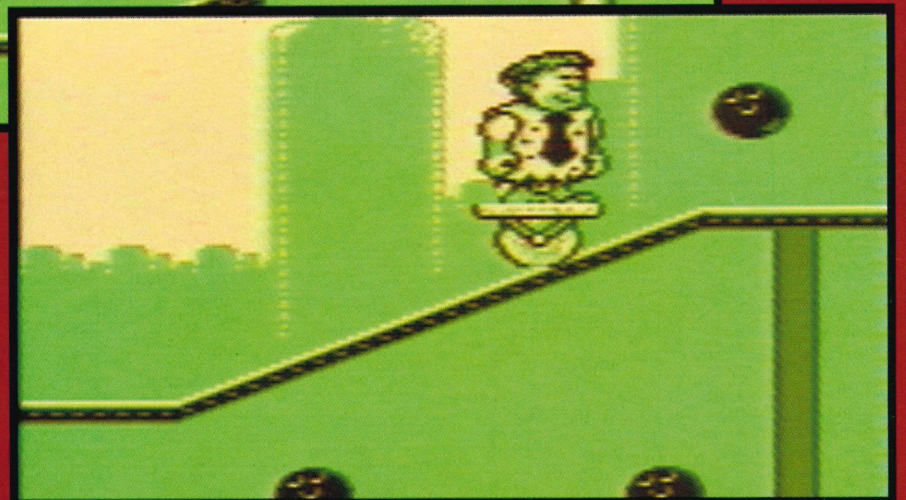
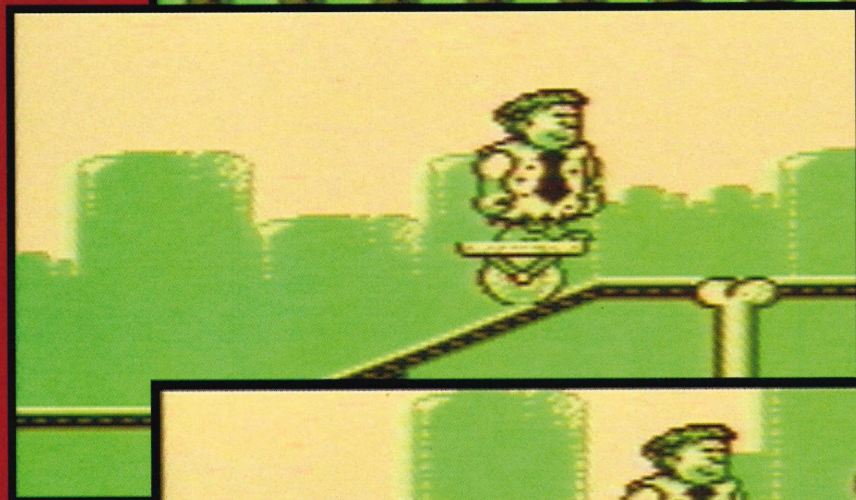
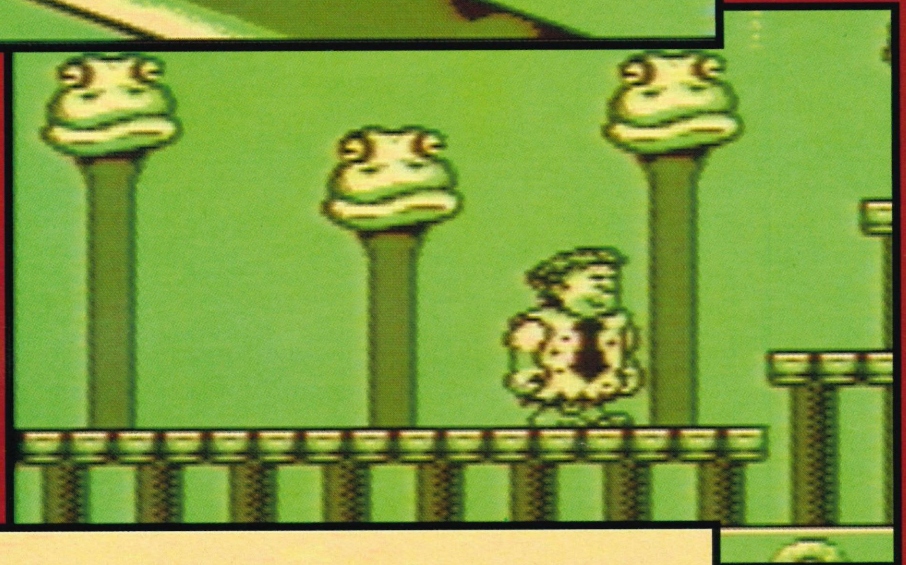
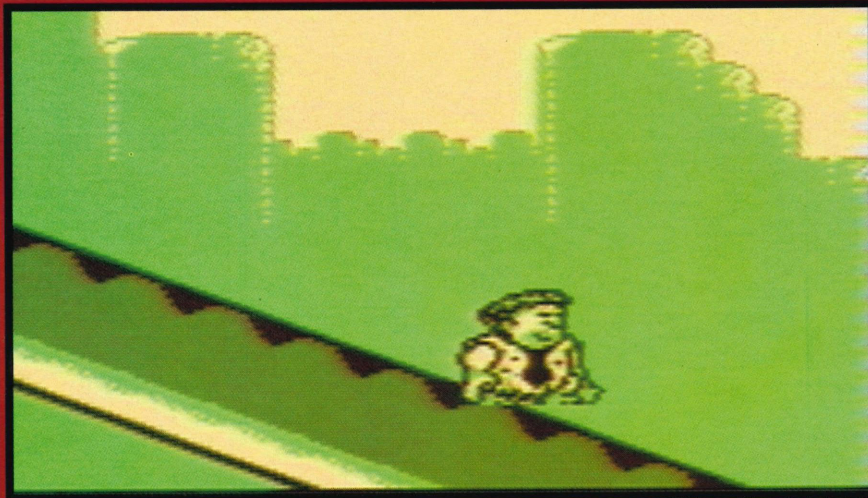
"Essentially all the events ,storyline or no storyline don't seem to make a lot of sense to me"

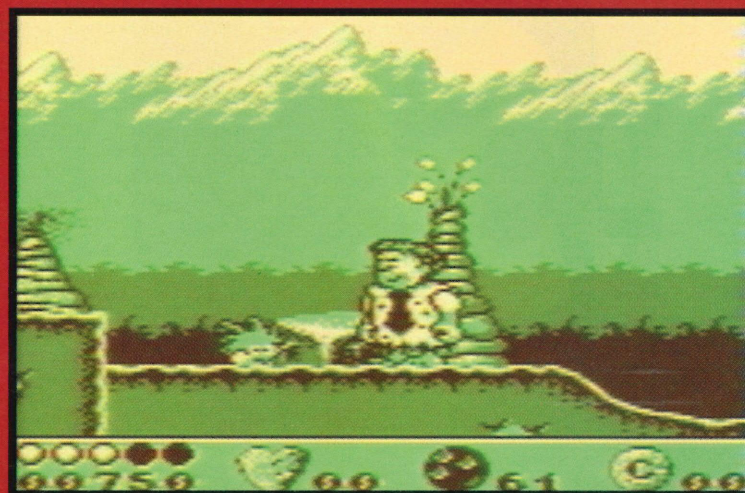
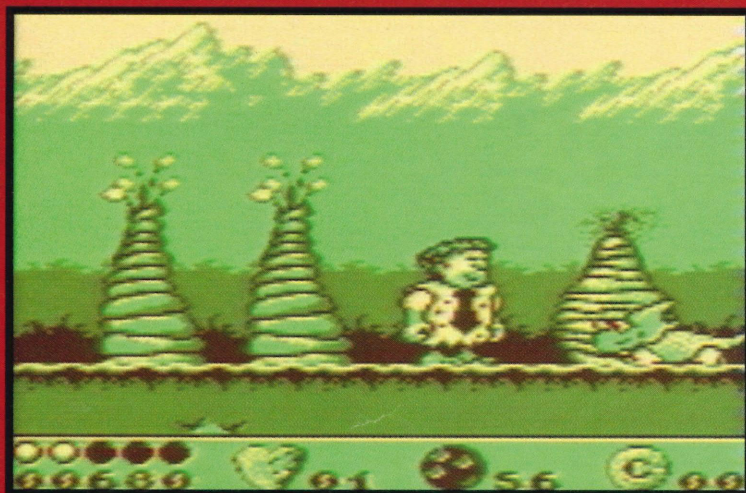
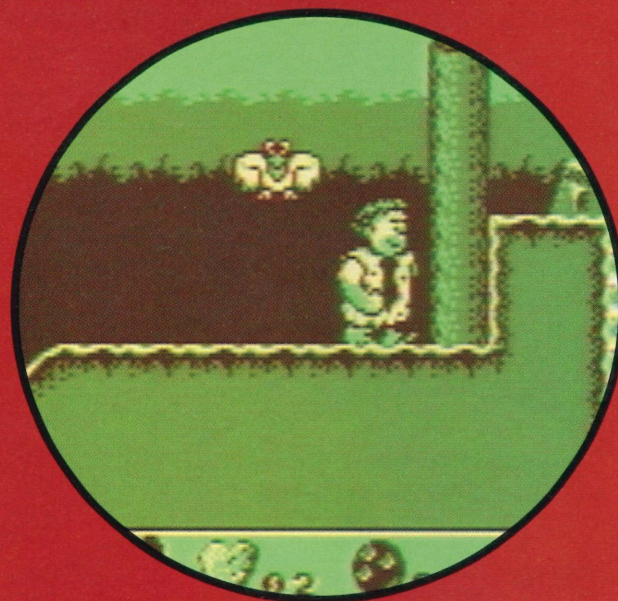
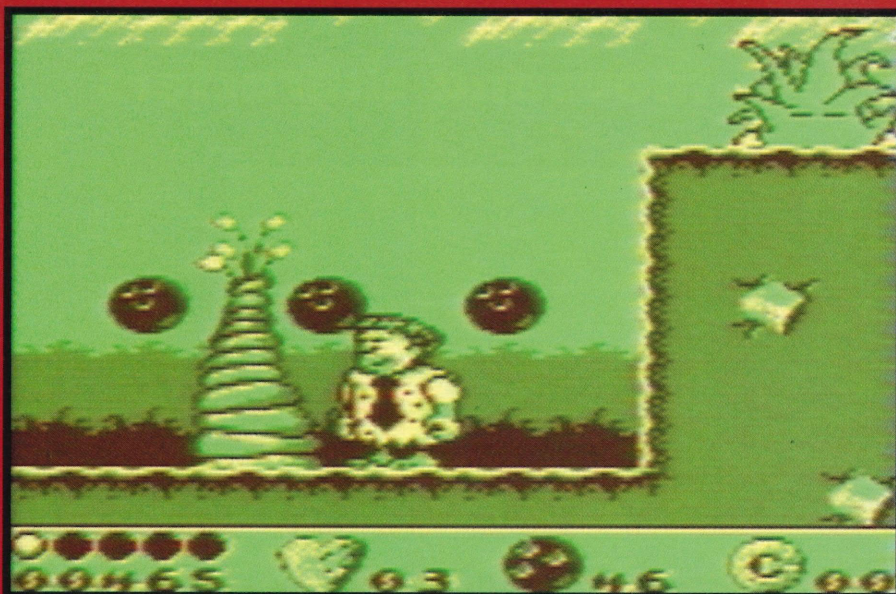
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nothing to do with his undeniable skills as a worker ,oh no ! Strange forces are afoot in Bedrock . It seems that the only reason that Fred has been promoted is to set him up with stealing huge sums of money from the company and to take the flack for firing the workers who are to be replaced by machinery . The very evil Cliff Vandercave seems to be behind Fred's troubles . Fred is forced to go on the run and leave his lovely wife Wilma to try and prove his innocence . He has to concentrate on getting away from the police and some very angry ex-workmates . Fred's troubles don't end here however . Things take a turn for the worse when Cliff Vandercave realises he might be under threat from the truth . This leads to him kidnapping Bam Bam and Pebbles . Fred has got to try and rescue the two little ones and capture the arch-criminal Cliff Vandercave .



Cast of a thousand characters



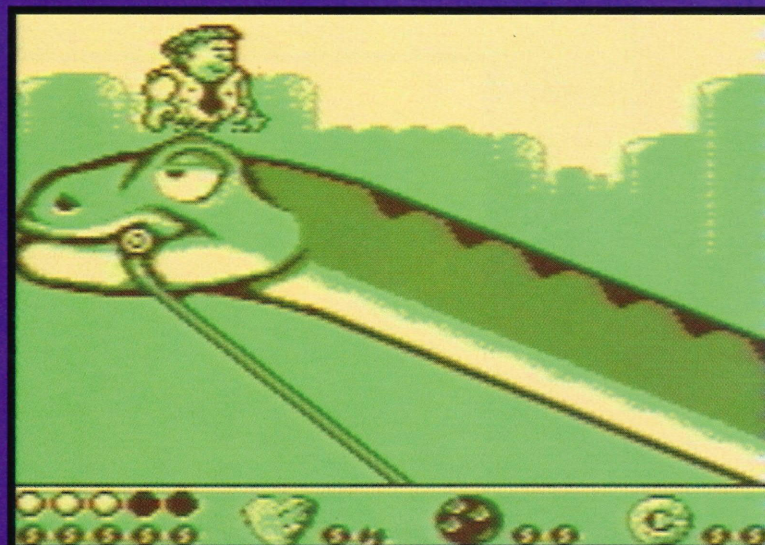


The first scene sees Fred at the quarry it's five thirty and time to go home again for dinner and a chance to see the family Flintstone . You set off without a care in the world . There are a series of dinosaurs that tend to take the place of J C Bs in Bedrock . These act as slides and can send you floating through the air until you land on a series of dinosaur heads . You have to jump along them and be careful not to fall off ,I don't think ! If you fall off you simply end up on solid ground and continue the stage . This seems to occur a great deal in the game . You are set a bit of a challenge and then find that if you do fall off it doesn't really matter as you continue regardless . You then have to negotiate a series of typical quarry trains that are fast and furious . Negotiate your way from one to another as you fly through the quarry . Eventually you end up in the famous Fredmobile ,that outrageous car that would be the last word in green motoring . You have to negotiate your way along a scrolling screen where you will find a series of hazards that take the form of either pot holes

or dinosaur heads mmm very odd . Perhaps they're speed ramps . After this you enter the true realms of platform adventure as you negotiate your way through the country avoiding wild creatures and hopping over waterfalls

. Essentially all the events ,storyline or no storyline don't seem to make a lot of sense to me . The game goes on and on and thank goodness they provide you with a little bit of text at the beginning of each new stage as this

helps you work out why you're doing whatever you are doing . In the tradition of all the great games you have to collect a series of objects on your romp . Balls ,teddy bears ,crystals and eggs are all available to be had . The





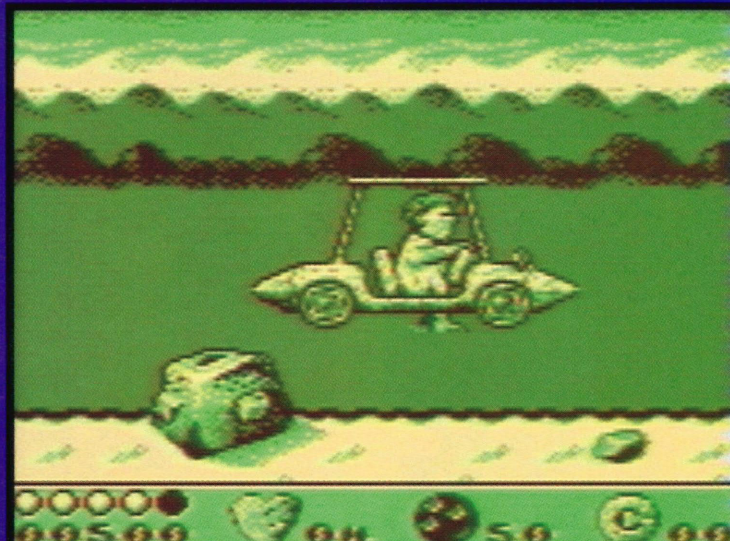
wild creatures that you come across throughout the stages of the game can be killed by jumping onto them ,but watch out as some of them like a leap of there own . To add to the excitement there are special bonus levels at

the end of each level . These include Fred's bowl-o-rama which surprisingly enough is a bowling game . If you score enough points then you will find that you get an extra life or three . There is also Pebbles memory game

where you have to recreate sequences that you see . The sequences get longer and longer and the more you get the more extra lives you get . Barney's wak-a-dino involves throwing rocks at dinosaurs . Bam Bam cracks 'n crosses is simply a noughts and crosses game . You also get a chance throughout the game to play a series of arcade games . It is here that you get the chance to spend some of the pennies that you have picked up during the game . There are three types of arcade game involving a version of

"an easyish game and really aimed at the younger of the game players out there"

space invaders ,a platform game and a game called Snake where you have to pick up objects whilst avoiding a variety of spikes and suchlikes . The game has excellent graphics and you can clearly make out exactly what is going on without any trouble . Even Fred looks like himself ,no mean feat . The game is also accompanied by an excellent rendition of the theme tune that'll have you humming for hours . The gameplay is also pretty good though perhaps not challenging enough for the older Game Boy owners . Overall it's a neatly packaged game with plenty of surprises and great concepts to keep you interested for a while . The options screen gives you the opportunity to increase the lives you have and to increase the continues . This says it all ,an easyish game and really aimed at the younger of the game players out there .



GB PANEL

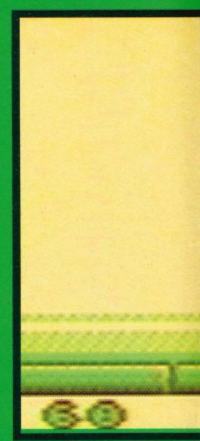


FLINTSTONES
PUBLISHER:
Ocean

Overall it's a neatly packaged game with plenty of supprises and great concepts to keep you interested for a while . It's certainly aimed at the younger market but this doesn't necessarily make it less enjoyable . It's only flaw is perhaps its forgiving nature and of course its subject matter !



OVERALL
85%



WACKY S

Well as sports games go this one provides us with quite the strangest variety of "sports" I've ever seen . Sports festival mode or carnival mode ,It's fun for all the family . But for how long and how much ? Read on .

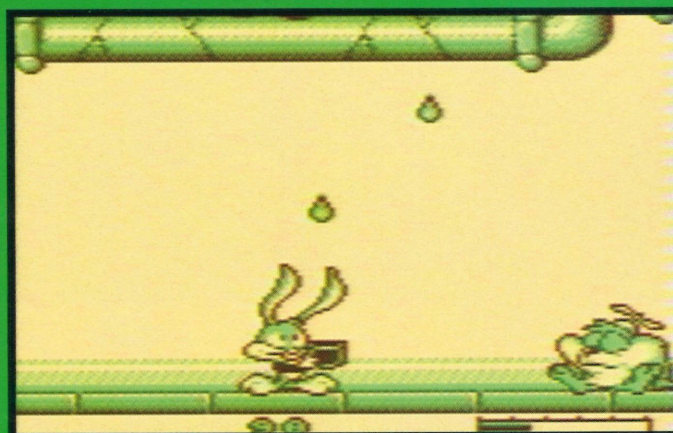
Well in this mad plunge into cartoon land you take on the character of either Buster Bunny or Babs Bunny . I suppose this is some kind of cartoon Olympics and it provides all the sporting challenge and even more fun than any Olympics I've seen on T V . You are presented with two modes . Firstly there is the Sports Festival Mode that can be either one or two player where you have alternate goes to eventually decide just who is the best out of you and your friends . If only one of the two players finish the game and qualify for the next sport both players will go on regardless of this .quite a nice touch that allows you to stand some chance of keeping up with your friends . Secondly there is the carnival mode that consists of two games that you simply have to choose and keep going as long as possible without making mistakes .

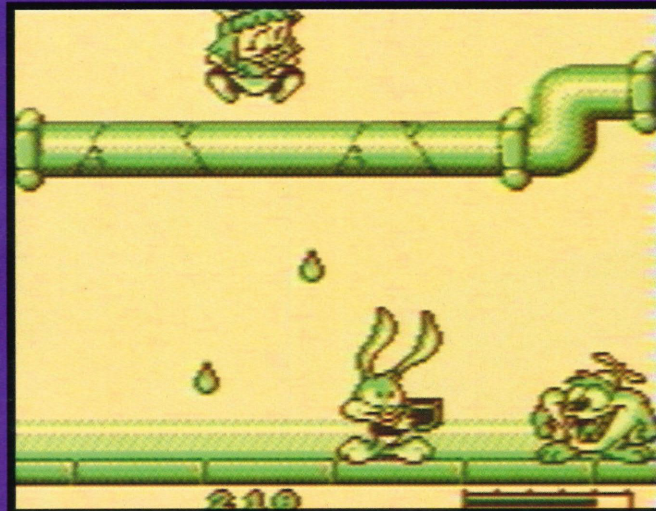
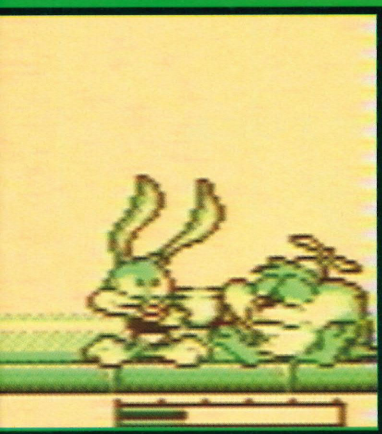
In the Sports Festival mode you get a chance to progress your way through six sports but only if you're good

enough . You must qualify to move onto the next sport and this often isn't quite such an easy task as you might first believe . The sports also get quite hard as you move through the game with the final Baseball challenge being pretty tough . Despite all this the first time I played the game I had a great deal of difficulty getting past the first game which is soccer . All you have to do is plant the ball in the net three times avoiding the "pesky" goalkeeper .

"I'd like to see Shearer and Sutton put a ball past this keeper first time"

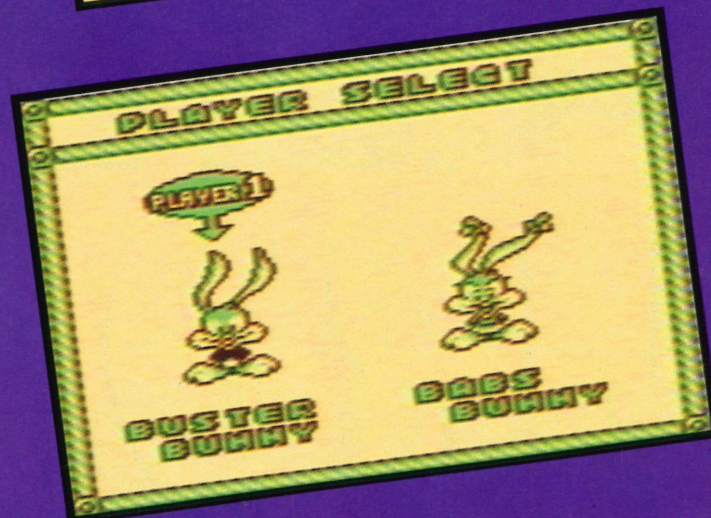
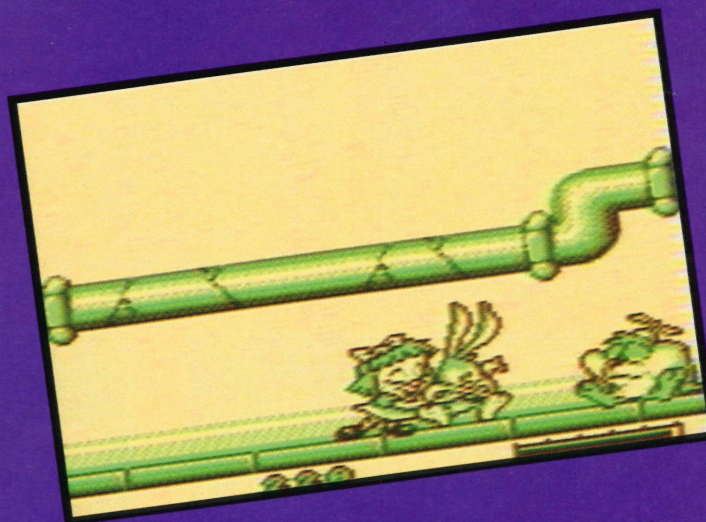
Being a player of some finesse and good vision myself ,I prepared for an easy task . How mistaken I was . I'd like to see Shearer and Sutton put a ball past this keeper first time . Not bad for a computer animated cartoon . You get five shots and you have to try and get three goals . The ball comes in from the right and the cursor is moved using the direction pad . It's tricky getting the cursor on target and getting your timing right . Believe me I know . If you are lucky enough to fluke three goals then you might be able to handle your next task which is to score a few goals on the basket ball court . This is equally tricky and really comes down to timing . Again you get five shots and you must get two ,three or four shots on target depending on what level you're on . In this game you have to contend with setting up your speed and the angle at which you will release the ball as you leap into the air . The next task is tennis where you find yourself up against the clock in an attempt to hit panels with a ball and your skill as a tennis player mmmm ! You can





SPORTS

move your player around and hit either backhands or forehands . This is one of the trickiest levels to get past and requires some serious practice . If however you do get any further then you will face the challenge of the Golf course . This involves trying to get holes in one . You must get three ,five ,or seven depending on what level you are on . After this is the American Football challenge in which you must score two touchdowns out of four attacks whilst avoiding being blocked by another toon figure midfield . After this you finally get a chance to indulge in some of Americas favourite pastime . Yes you got it ,Baseball . You have to get three ,four or five points depending on your level . If you complete this then you are the ultimate tiny toon sports personality . Cool or what ! Alternatively you can try your patience and hand eye co-ordination with the two games on the Carnival mode ,they are Shirley's water panic or Fifi's water squirting game . This has to be the strangest sports game out and though it created a great deal of interest at first when it came into the office it eventually wore off as it became apparent that infact the game is designed for eight to twelve year olds mmmm ! It is however a lot of well packaged fun .



GB PANEL



WACKY SPORTS

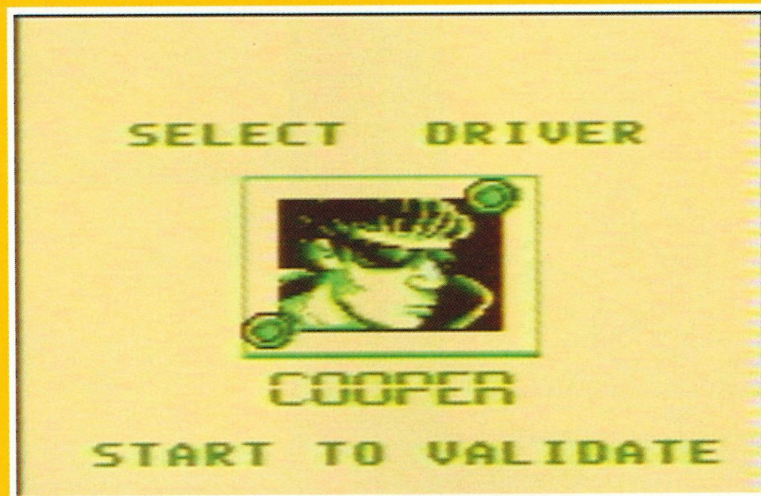
PUBLISHER: KONAMI

This game was extremely popular when it first came in and although this interest wore off it is a great fun game that provides a lot of gameplay for the Game Boys' younger players . The only tedious part of the game is the fact you can't jump to your preferred sport without trudging through the less interesting sports

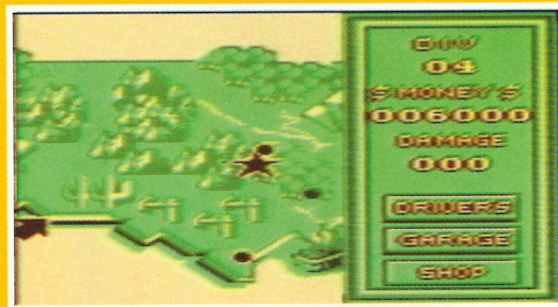
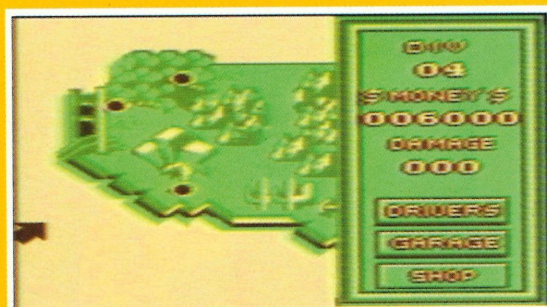


OVERALL

84%



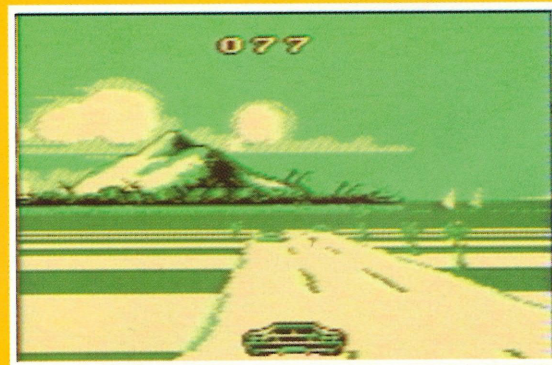
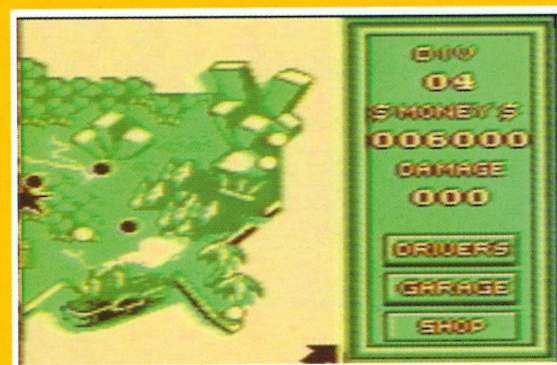
If you've always fancied getting your hands on a very tasty supercar and giving it the large one all over the states then its time to give up dreaming and go for the next best thing . No ,I don't mean ragging it round Essex in an old Escort . I do of course mean Lamborghini, American Challenge



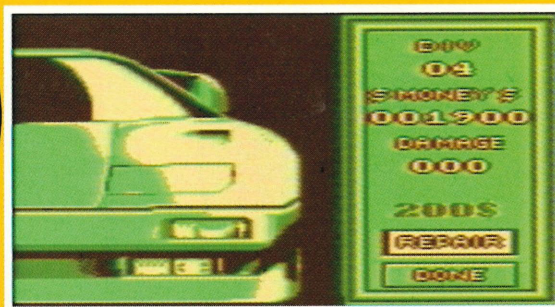
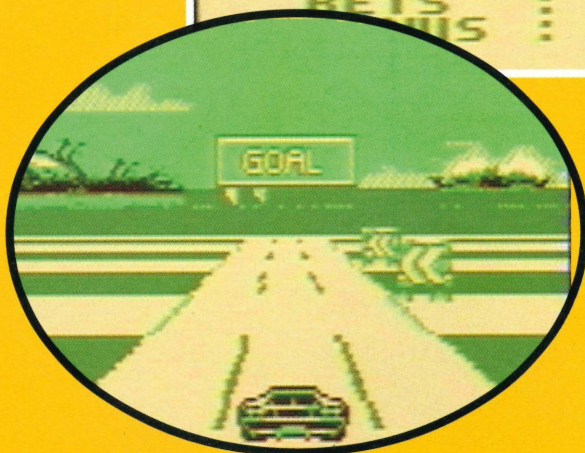
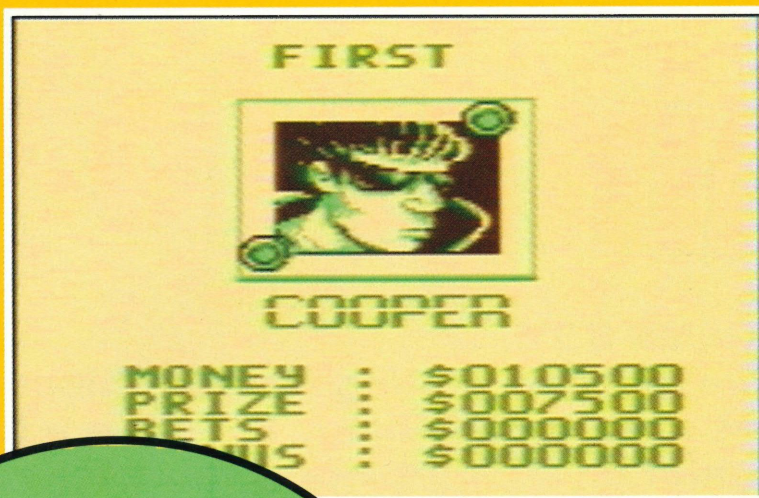
Yes its time to settle yourself down behind the wheel of one of Italy's' finest road going racers (My publisher would disagree being a Ferrari owner)and give it the large one ! OK ,so the game boy can't give you the true thrill of going nigh on 220 mph across flat American scenes like something out of the 'Gumball Rally' but it can try to . The first choice this game gives you is the driver you wish to be . However this really makes very little difference as

in reality they all go very fast and behave very badly . Essentially you are up against some serious road racers in all sorts of turbo/super charged slingshots . Forget your XR3i these are some big old v8 s and then some . You get to race in a series of events all across the states ,12 in all . These are not just simple races because like all the finest in racing games you get prize money . What can you do with this prize money ? Well a couple of things actually . Firstly you are given the option to place bets on the race .

This can seriously up the winnings you might or might not get . A wrong bet ,on the other hand could really end up putting you in the um the uh ... yes ,it could cause you a great deal of trouble and you don't want that do you ! Money is also required for more important things than a side bet . Each race takes quite a toll on your car and this means you might need to spend a penny ,sorry cent ,or two putting your extremely expensive Italian machine right . Blimey the running costs are a nightmare ,thank goodness you don't have to pay for



LAMBORGHINI



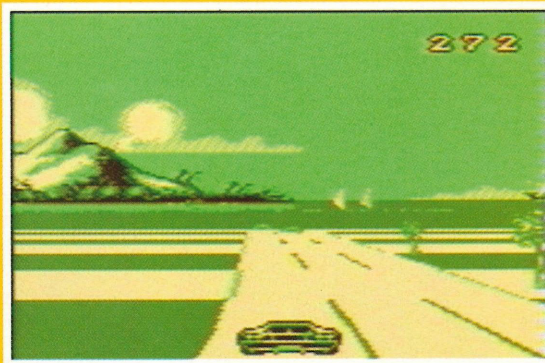
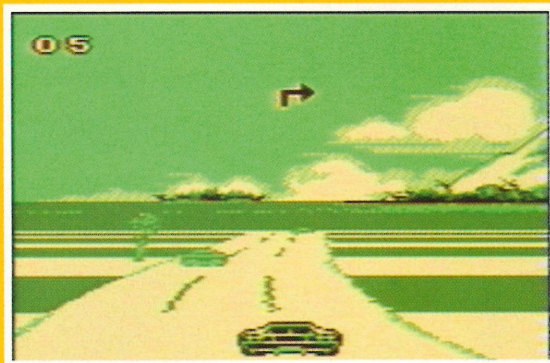
the gas as well . Yet another thing for you to spend your hard won cash on is a list of special options as long as your arm . There's every thing from special breaks (at a give-away price of only \$50,000) to radar jammers and even snow tires . Basically you've got plenty to spend your wad on so budget carefully .

The racing is meant to take place on real roads so there's all sorts of hazards for you to look out for . Firstly there are Traffic cones that are a bugger to miss and you suddenly come up on them when it's to late to take

evasive action . These tend to cause some serious damage . On top of this are other cars that you aren't actually racing . These simply tend to hinder your headlong rush to the finish post . You also have to contend with your opponents . The major problem however is the long and very fast arm of the Law . Yes the cops are on to you and will try to slow you down at every possible opportunity so watch out ,there's a copper about .

The Graphics aren't to bad and the scrolling is very good without any really bad flickering . The game is

quite simply fast and furious fun on a whole variety of courses . The controls are very easy to master with simple left and right on the direction pad and A and B are brake and accelerate . The only problem is the fact that the courses are to similar . There are no really challenging high speed turns or mountain climbs . It's all a bit flat and repetitive . However when all is said and done it's a laugh and it's the sort of game that you'll forget about for a while and then have a few solid days on it .



IN

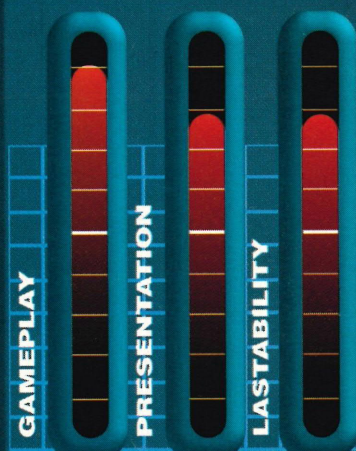
AMERICAN CHALLENGE

GB PANEL



LAMBORGHINI
PUBLISHER: TITUS

Forget your XR3i, this is about fast and furious Italian supercars giving it the large one all over the heartland of America . A driving game often overlooked, perhaps not a classic but certainly a lot of fun . Excellent gameplay and options coming out of its ears .



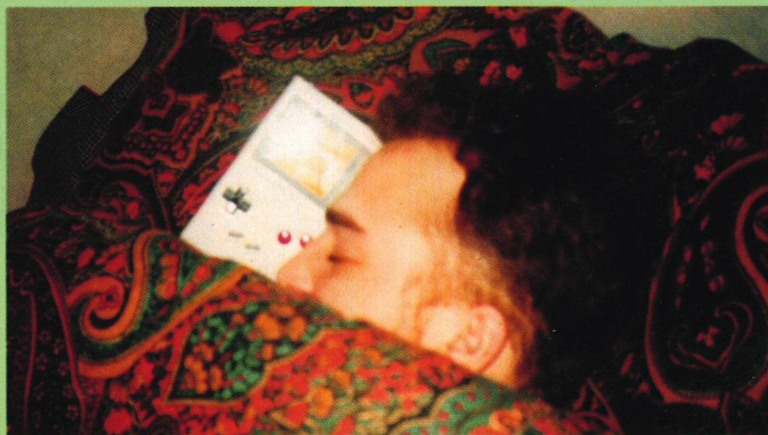
OVERALL

86%

101 things to do

101 THINGS TO DO WITH A GAME BOY

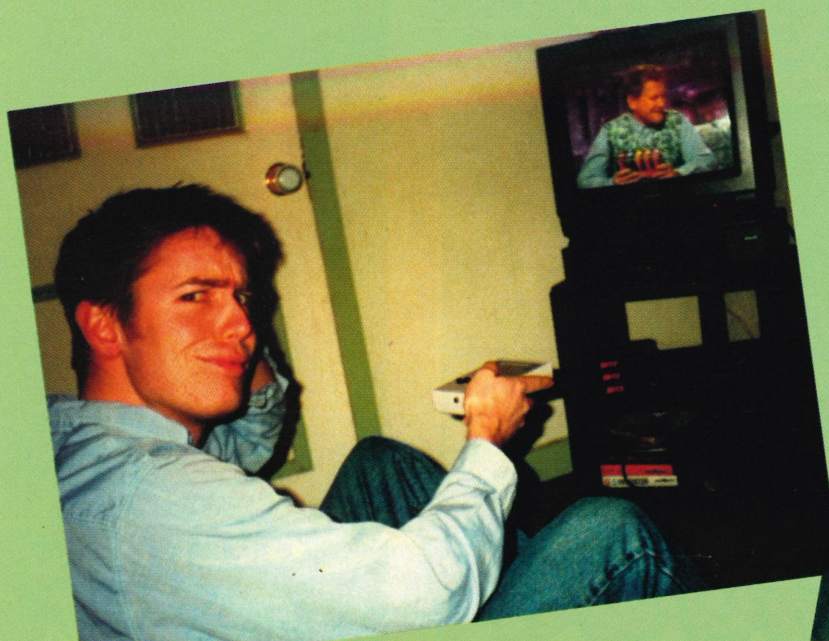
***Well this is the feature you've all been waiting for .101 things to do with your Game Boy . Well not exactly 101 things but quite a few at least . Many of you might wonder if you are getting value for money when you purchase your Game Boy and we're here to show you that you are !**



***At the end of the day cuddle up in bed with your favorite Game Boy.**



***Impress your mates by showing them your impressive**

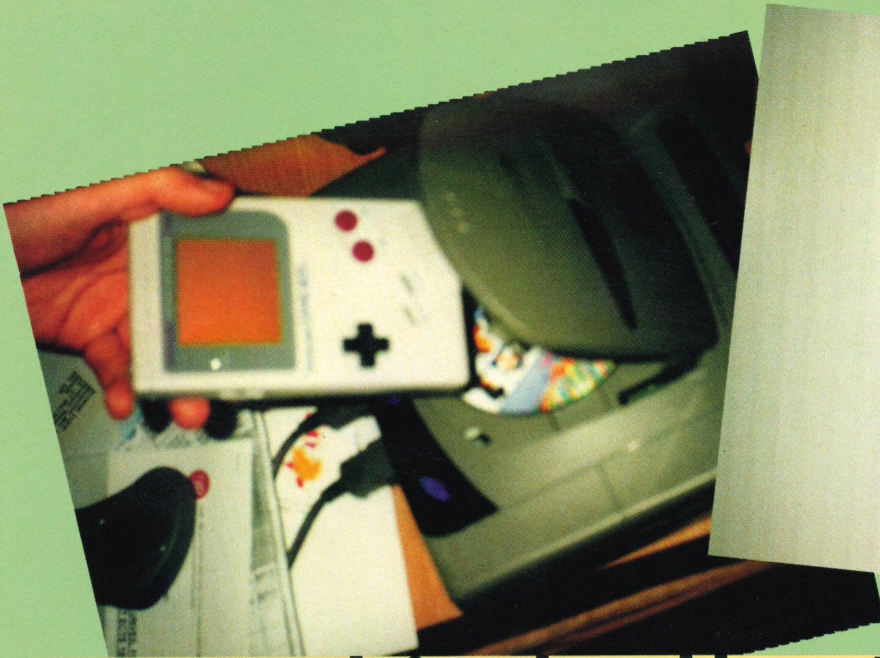


***Lost your TV remote ? Well why not try your Game Boy.**



***Perfect snack as a sandwich.**

with a Game Boy



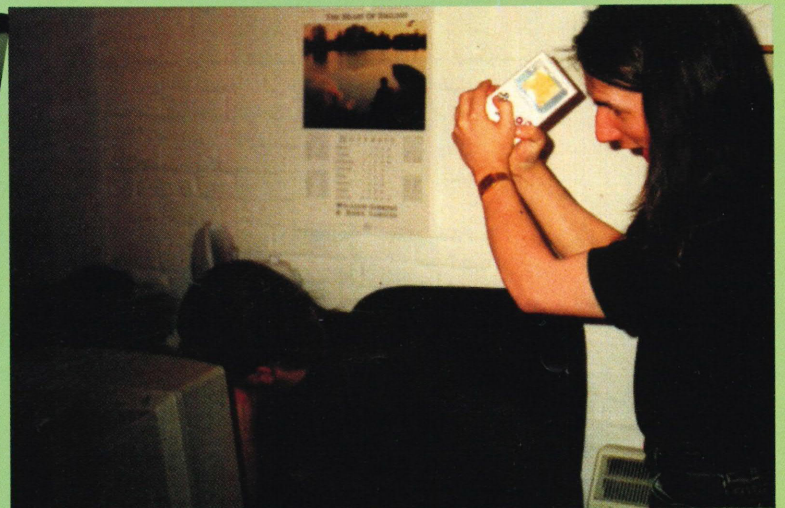
***How to bring that old games console up to date
!\$%&***



***Bored in the shower ,try waterproofing your Game Boy.**



***Brighten up those dull STir Fries.**



***The Game Boy also makes quite a handy offensive weapon.**

SPIDERMAN

Well it seems that someone thought that Spiderman 2 was pretty good ,did Spiderman 3 meet expectations ? It certainly did ! Well ,around here any way . Read on and see if you agree .

This Spiderman adventure was slightly different to the first two in that it was actually based on a real Spiderman comic story that was seen in Marvel Comics Amazing Spiderman-Man issues 368 through to 373 . This was a very good idea as it attracted more true Spiderman fans . The name of the story that inspired this game is 'Invasion Of The Spider Slayers'

It seems that there are robot style

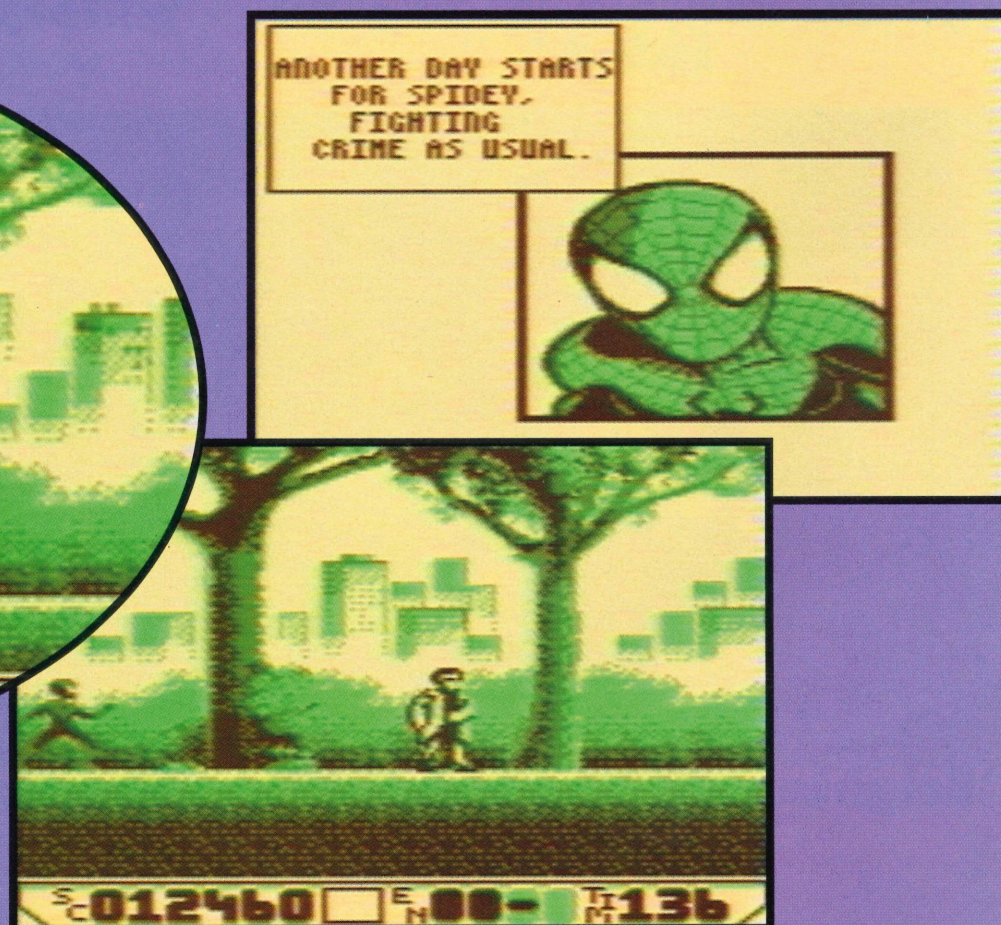
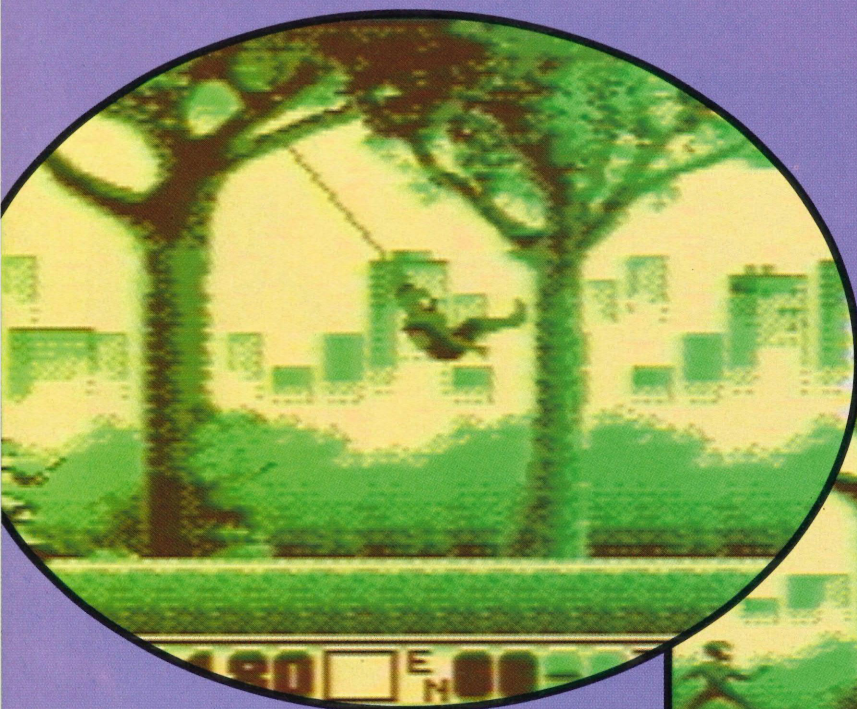
mechanoid type thingys that ,so it seems ,are after our hero intent on doing him some serious damage . They are everywhere and it seems that the Bronx has been particularly badly hit ,so ,yes you guessed it ,it's up to this overstretched hero to sort things out throughout the city The game kicks off in central park and here follows a feast of incredibly difficult platform\beat 'em up . You finally end up battling against a very strange creature by the name of the 'Ultimate Spider Slayer' mmm a rather silly

name .

The game is very rapid and can be a bit of a handful . It was initially slightly slated due to the fact that it is very difficult to control . However if you can control spiderman in the second game then you shouldn't have any problem as infact I always found the mechanics of the game somewhat smoother than the second game . Despite this the game is far from easy and takes an awful lot of skill ,it is quite possible to waste a lot of time simply getting through the first level . When you final-

ly do you will ,however 'be very happy

Spiderman still has all the old moves ,the amazing clingability allowing him to climb up just about anything ,and he still had the karate kicks and all the nifty moves needed to get past all the bad guys . The first two levels are almost impossibly difficult ,for instance the huge brick wall that you come up against at the start of the first level isn't easy to scale until you get yourself in tune with the controls ,and it doesn't get any easier as it seems that



AN 3

the game is much more of a beat 'em up than its predecessors and this means that you will have to actually make the most of Spideys incredible martial arts moves ,and even then this still doesn't make things easy as in some levels such as level three ,you simply can't make out who are the baddies as things are moving so quickly . There is no doubt about it this game is very difficult ,but really this simply aids its lastability and gives you a feeling of success every time you get past another level ,or boss .

The graphics are superb in the game and quite honestly ,Spiderman actually looks pretty much like the real thing . We are talking superb amounts of realism that really help the game on its long and torturous path where you are in constant danger of being beaten senseless by thousands of Spider Slayers . The storyline is also pretty good (and so it should be) which also

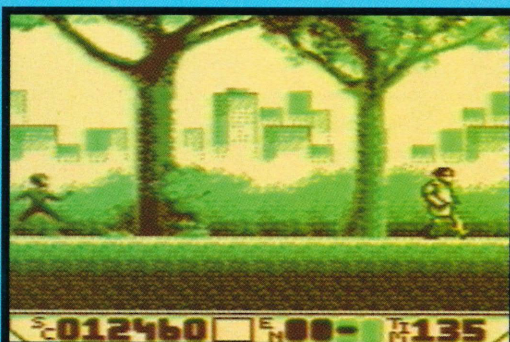
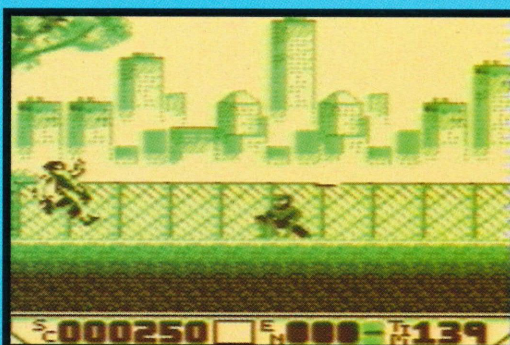
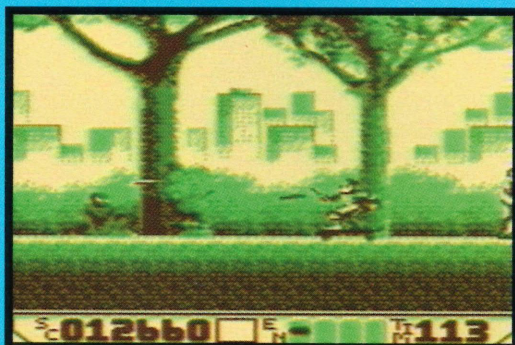


helps the game greatly

The games main problem as you might have guessed is its level of difficulty and ,to be honest if you found Spiderman two a handful then you will still have great difficulty in playing this game ,on the other hand if you have the right skill to do well in the previous game then you shouldn't have any problem in finally doing respectably well . When the game was first

reviewed back in good old issue fourteen it was given a total score of 83% ,which is really less than the game might have got if it had been slightly easier . The scores for lastability and presentation were both nine out of ten whereas gameplay only scored seven out of ten and this is entirely due to the level of difficulty ,maybe it could have scored more .

Does whatever a spider can



GB PANEL



SPIDERMAN 3

PUBLISHER:
NINTENDO

This is a great improvement even on the second Spiderman which is quite something . Not only is the story line great but the graphics are incredible . Again the only major problem is the difficulty level which is a direct result of the hard controls ,however they have been improved upon .

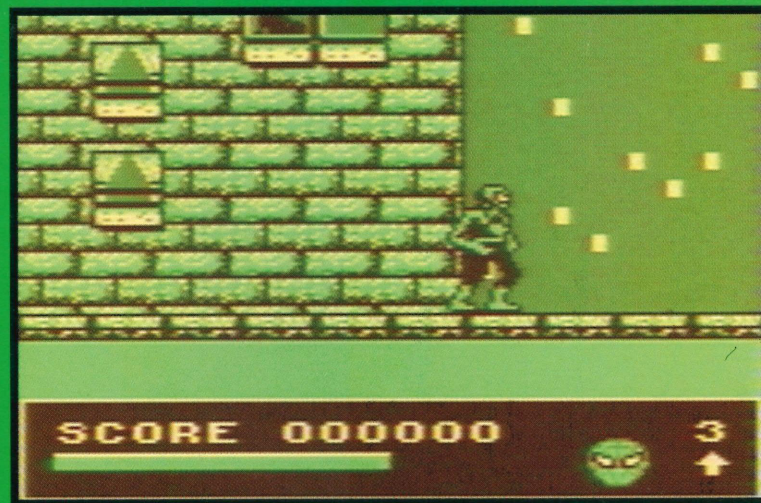
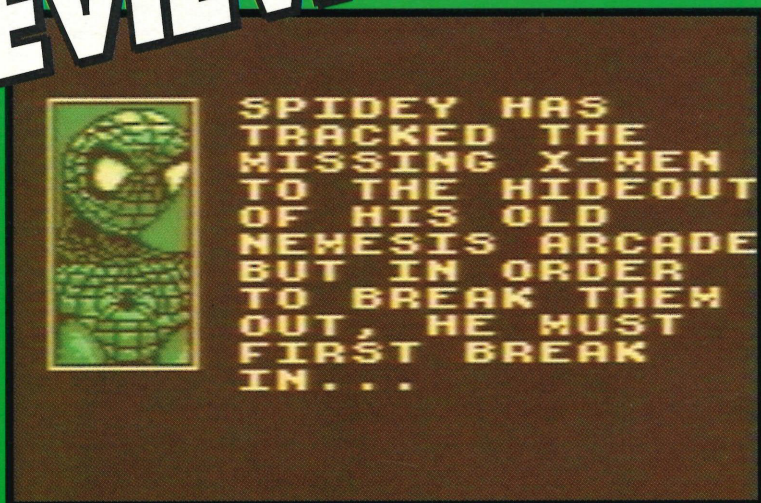
GAMEPLAY

PRESENTATION

LASTABILITY

OVERALL

83%



SPIDERMAN AND

Recently I've had the pleasure of watching countless old episodes of Spiderman on cable TV . Getting my hands on the games became a must ,so just for your pleasure here is a Super Spider-Man Special for all you wall climbing fans .

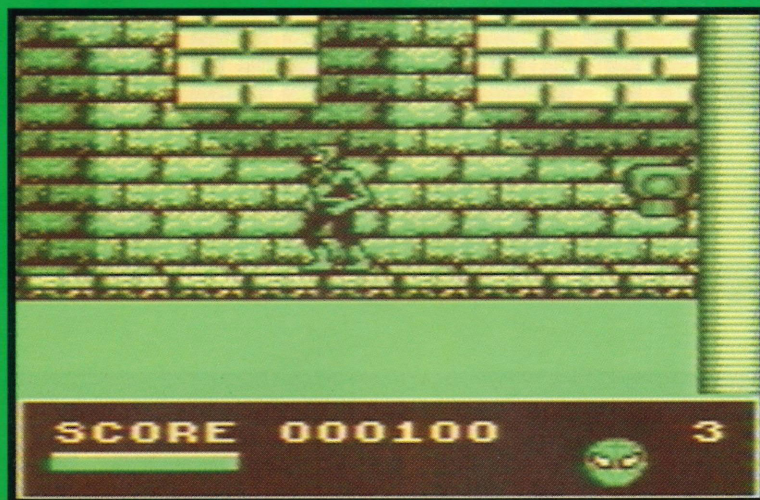
Well it seems that our arachnid friend is to face death and destruction once more in his quest to save the X-Men from a fate worse than death . Wolverine ,Cyclops and Storm are all missing and in this platform adventure romp you've got quite a lot to sort out . It seems some chap called Arcade is responsible for some of the

strange goings on . Arcade is of course an old adversary of our hero . He owns an amusement park where he has developed his rides into huge success . However as with all power-crazed millionaires he's not exactly on the same wave length as the rest of us . His funfair is now a death trap where the rides and games have taken on the highest price ,life itself . What an old git . The first thing you've got to do

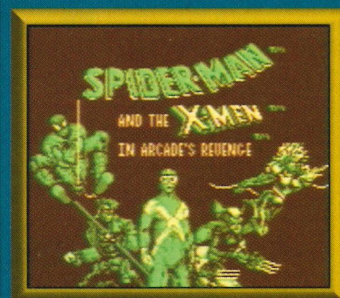
is get yourself into this hideous theme park and believe me it 'aint that easy . Those of you who are familiar with previous Spiderman games you'll know that the controls are a bit of a handful to say the least . I've had a great deal of trouble just getting through the first level . As with all these things ,it's all down to having the knack . Either you've got it or in my case you haven't . Luckily I knew someone who did

have the knack and could at least show me what the hell was going on ! I eventually clicked to the fact that I was actually meant to switch off a series of electric eye type things and this would allow me into the game proper . Once I was into the amusement park things really hotted up nicely . The evil Arcade has set up a load of events that you have to try and survive . This would be nigh on impossible but for





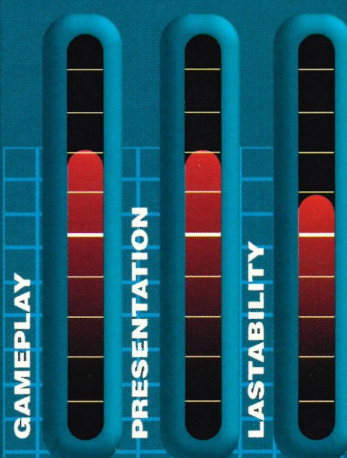
GB PANEL



SPIDERMAN & THE X MEN

PUBLISHER: ACCLAIM

Not nearly as enjoyable as previous three games and only something to look out for if you really are a big Spidey fan . Poor graphics don't help . There are some nice touches but to be fair they're few and far between .



OVERALL

68%

GAMEPLAY

PRESENTATION

LASTABILITY

THE X MEN

the fact that once inside you can choose which character you want to be out of Spidey or any of the X-Men . Each event is tailored to be perfect for one of the characters . For instance Cyclops gets to ride the rollercoaster from hell . The perils he face include electrocution from the rails ,mines spread about and balls firing at you amongst other things . You'll need your wits about you to complete any of these events . Storm is trapped in an underwater maze and really has to work hard to maintain her air supply and avoid all manner of underwater nasties as she raises the water level in order to find the exit . Gambit is forced to face a hellish chess board with deadly pieces but remember all of these characters have the advantage of being X-Men and they're out to win ,especially since there lives on the line . Eventually our man Spidey has a trial of his own to face ,but to tell you would be to spoil the fun and I don't want to do that .

The characters are equally hard to control as Spiderman himself so things aren't at all easy . You may have to spend quite some time sorting out your controls before you finish any level . Again its a question of Knack and a lot of practice . If you do eventually sort it out then you might really get to grips with the game . Different characters make it interesting if not a bit hard ,but it's worth sticking at . Although the plot is interesting it doesn't work for me . The main problem with this game apart from the gameplay is the appalling graphics need I say more !



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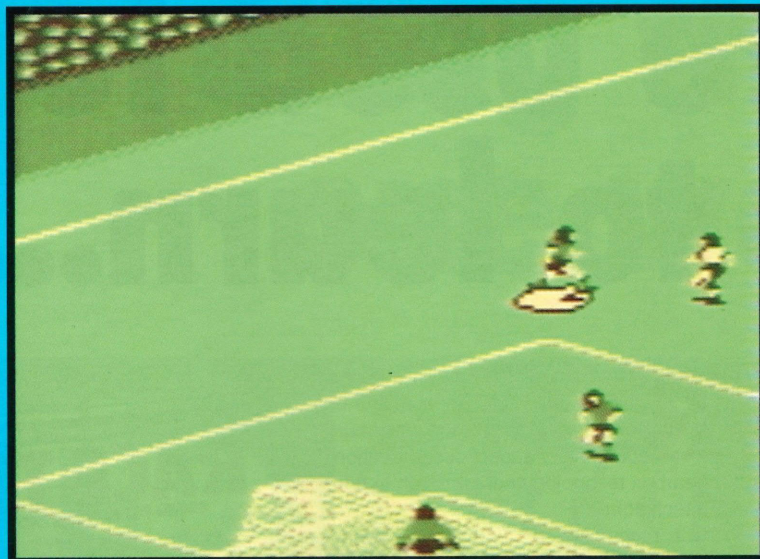
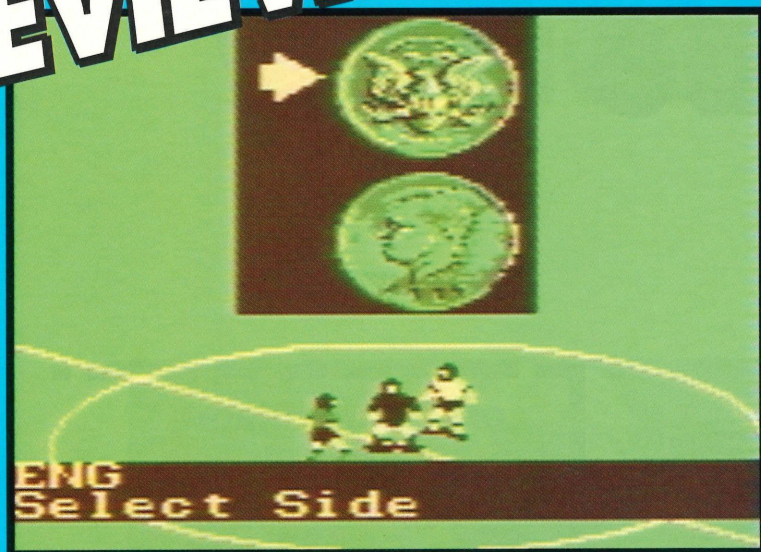
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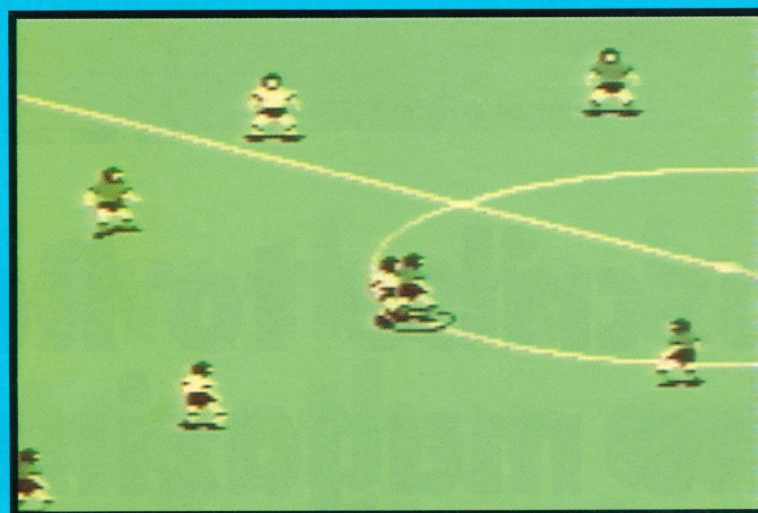
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FIFA SOCCER

Well back in Issue thirty four we brought you a complete exclusive of the much hyped expected arrival of FIFA soccer on the Game Boy . Well that was some time ago and now the game is actually here . It comes out on the 24 th of March so by the time you read this it will be in the shops ready for you to purchase . Are you going to buy it ? Well here's a reminder of exactly how great it is .

What can I really say about such a great game that can do it justice . I would never have believed that it was possible to get such an incredibly good football game onto the Game Boy . This game quite simply pushes out the envelope of what I thought was possible on the portable palmpleser and to be quite frank ,if companies keep producing games of this calibre for the Game Boy then it'll be around for some time to come . I had the unfortunate pleasure of spending quite some time on the train whilst journeying to London for a night of clubbing . Well of course I went clutching a change of clothes and of course my Game Boy . I settled down in the no-smoking compartment (aren't they all) for what I fully expected to be yet another incredibly boring trip through the country with only the pregnant mother opposite and her screaming snotty nosed



kids opposite for company . Oh and the old dear further up the carriage . Well my first move was to locate my ear phones and whack them into you know what . I then whacked in the pre production FIFA Soccer . Yes ,I was in another world ,a place far removed

from screaming kids and old women ,I was playing in the world cup . Forget your Fantasy Football . Here I was player ,manager ,chairman . I was Brazils finest and I was out for a seriously long match . Forty five minutes each way . Could my batteries stand

for such serious abuse . I have to admit that I soon stopped the game because I was getting such a serious kicking . Perhaps if I reduced the time of each half things might become easier or at least I might not get quite such a kicking

"never have believed that it was possible to get such an incredibly good football game onto the Game Boy"

. mmm then again ! It seems that the team I was playing (Israel) against was full of a certain Spurs player who shall remain nameless . My team on the other hand was full of street urchins who seemed intent on running in the wrong direction and were a trifle slow to react to my frantic instructions . This was going to be no walkover ,O K so it was a walkover ,but not for me . I

seemed to receive one thrashing after another . My Mega Drive version isn't as hard as this surely ,I thought to myself . Well I'm not sure . Luckily I had a long journey and only the one game with me to play . The option of screaming kids seemed much more hideous than a few kickings by the Game Boy .

As my journey continued I started to really get to grips with this little beauty mmm ! Come

o n

"full of street urchins who seemed intent on running in the wrong direction"

ER

then Israel give me your best . I actually started not only to score goals but won the odd match . Almost time to get into the league proper . Well maybe a few practice games first . Well I finally arrived in the sprawling Metropolis that many refer to as London and felt I had got the hang of the game . By the time I got off the Tube at Oxford Circus I was feeling truly up amongst the Football greats . I was starting to get to grips with the Game Boys controls like never before . Quite frankly this game is great . I had the pleasure of going a few games of the Football sim on the Sega Saturn (A serious piece of kit) and to be perfectly frank despite all it's flash graphics it offered very little more in the way of Playability and you can't take it on the train with you ,Oh



Options Galore!

England		USA
6	Shooting	4
8	Running	6
6	Passing	4
7	Defence	5
7	Tackling	4
7	Goal Keeping	5
7	Overall	5

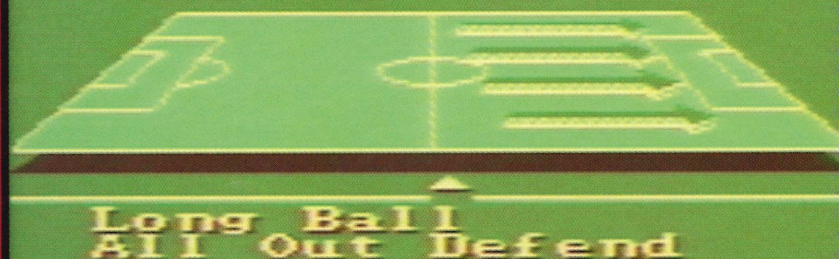
Hi, I'm Bill Brown, reporting for EA SPORTS.

We

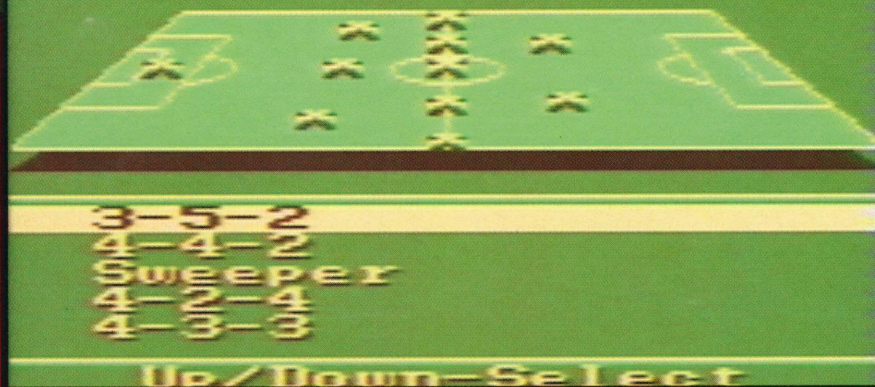
Team Coverage



Team Strategy

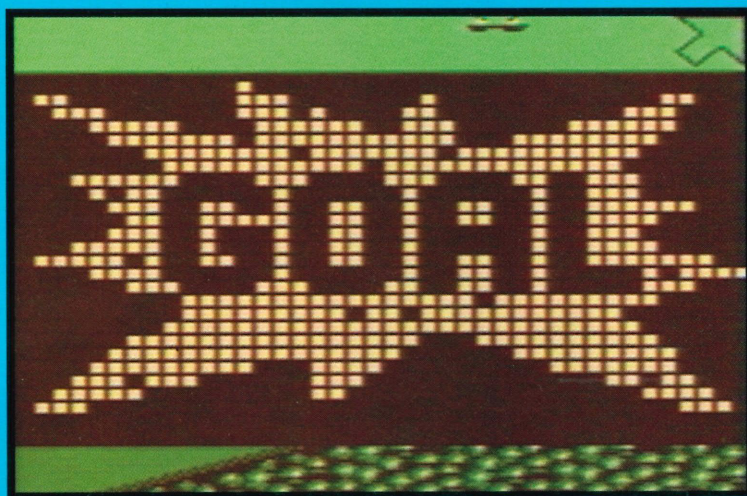
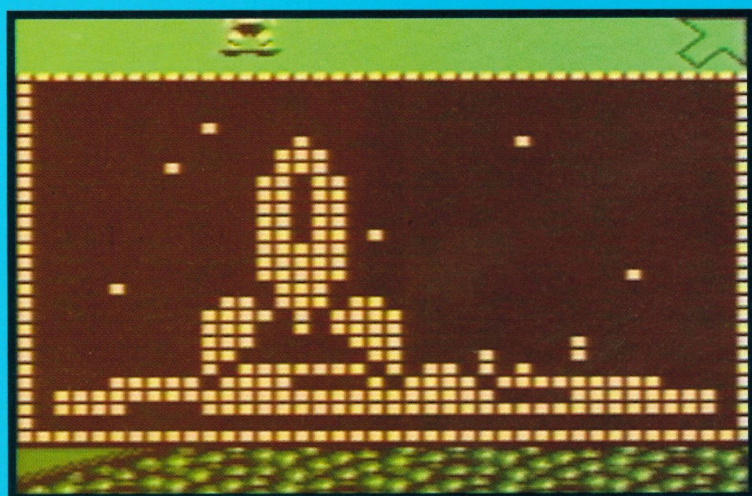
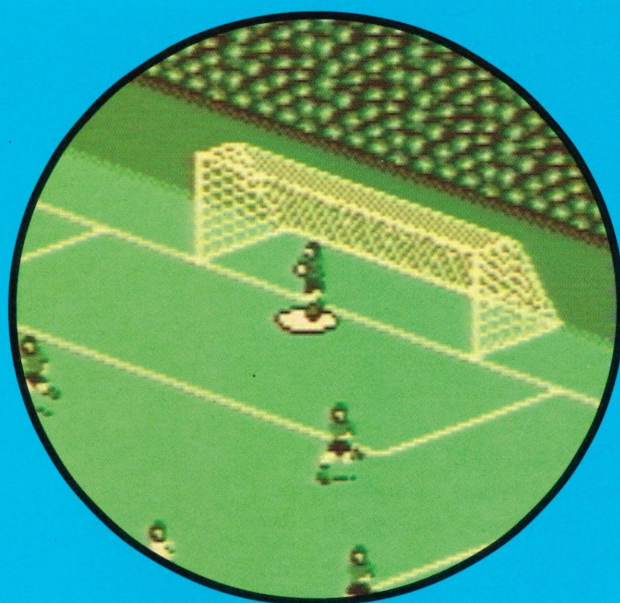
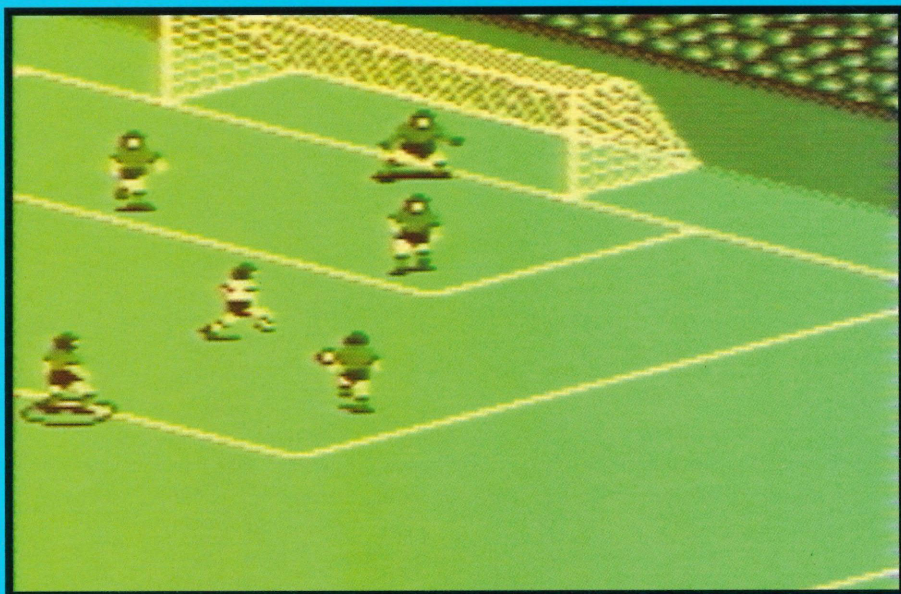


Team Formation



3-5-2
4-4-2
Sweeper
4-2-4
4-3-3

Up/Down-Select



and an imported console will set you back several hundreds of pounds . FIFA soccer on the Game Boy represents bargain basement entertainment that's good enough to rival the best .

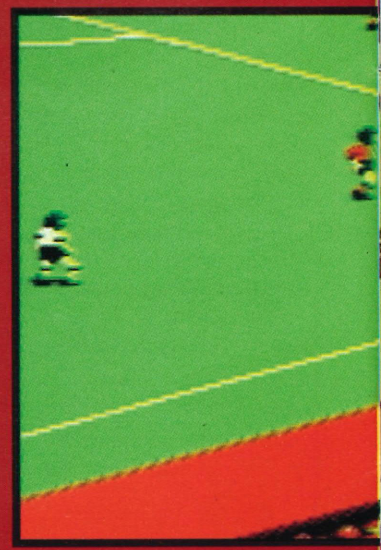
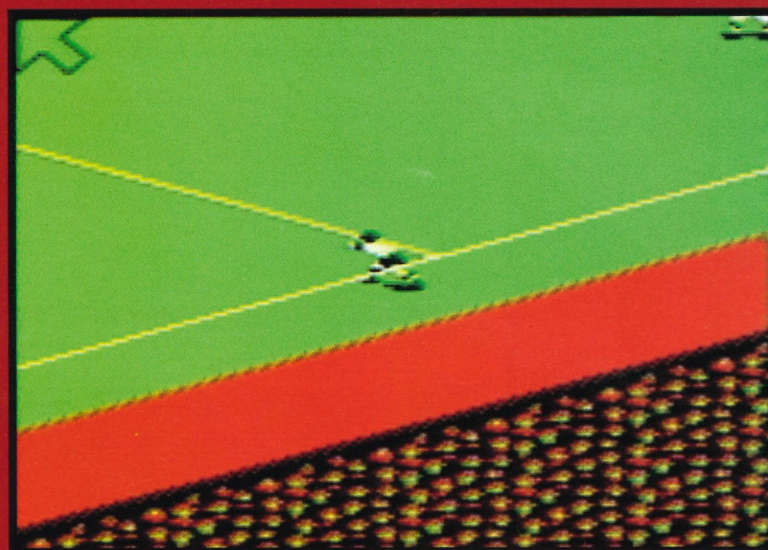
I've always been a huge fan of FIFA soccer on its other formats . I would rate it above the other football games that shall remain nameless . The game was both loved and hated when it first appeared however I think It's safe to say it has stood the test of time well with new versions being better and better . The pure fact that they have crammed so much onto a Gameboy cart is impressive on its own . The only things that are missing are instant replay and a two player option and these really don't detract from what is actually a dam fine game . The instant replay option was always over-rated and in my opinion wasted time as my housemates always wanted to look again at their passes ,shots on goal ,fouls and anything else that occurred on the pitch . Boring !

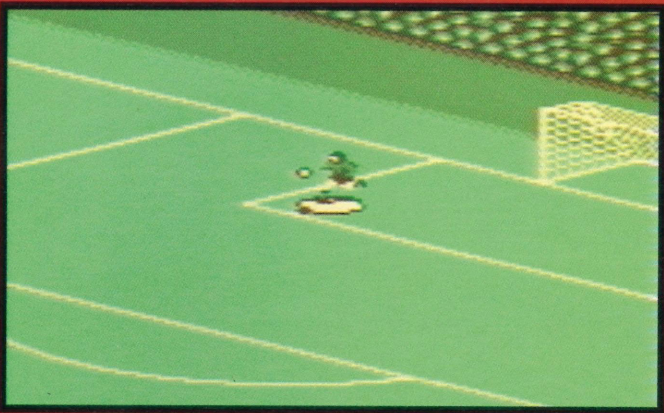
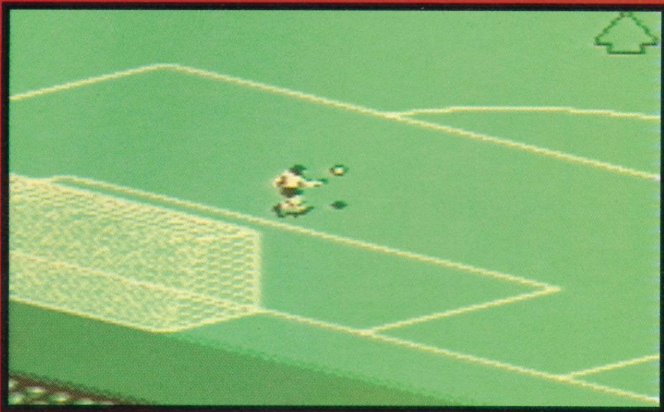
The game has some of the finest graphics and best scrolling I've seen

for quite a while . There are some slight problems . the quick scrolling does mean that you require rapidly reacting players . The players are however not perhaps as quick reacting

as one would like . Even the finest teams of the world when under your control are slower it seems than teams from less prominent Footballing nations . This can be a touch off-

putting especially when used to faster formats but you soon get used to it . There is also a slight flickering as the screen scrolls however it really doesn't interfere with the Gameplay and can't





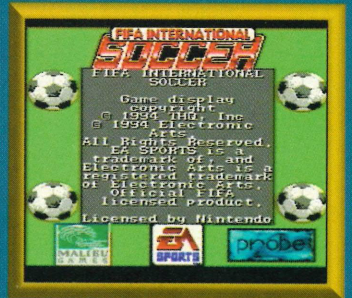
be helped . The amazing graphics more than make up for this . It is rare you see something on the Game Boy that doesn't look like a dodgy looking sprite made up of seriously blocky pixels but FIFA soccer does really well in this respect providing us with some neat looking players . When they are fouled they really role around in agony so I suggest you always play with full fouls on as this livens up the game no end . Sometimes its tricky to pull off successful short passes but this is really down to practice and what's

"it's not often that a Game Boy game is as good as the original on the SNES"

wrong with a bit of hit and hope type playing .

If its a football simulator you want then this is the one for you . It is equally as good if not better than any of the other footie sims about and it really would add a load of credibility to your Game collection . This is definitely one to show off about . The options list is as long as your arm . You can play in the wet or the dry on grass or artificial pitches . Who could possibly ask for more than that . The conversion is an amazing feat and it's not often that a Game Boy game is as good as the original on the SNES but here's one that simply is . And it's seriously portable and can sort you out on a long and tedious train ride . If you've got the cash go out there and buy it . If you don't have the cash then beg or borrow it and go out there and buy it ! nuff said !

GB PANEL



FIFA SOCCER
PUBLISHER:
T*HQ

An amazing conversion of the finest football simulator around . It's not often that a Game Boy game is as good as the original on the SNES but here's one that simply is . If its a football simulator you want then this is the one for you . It is equally as good if not better than any of the other footie sims about . FIFA soccer on the Game Boy represents bargain basement entertainment that's good enough to rival the best .

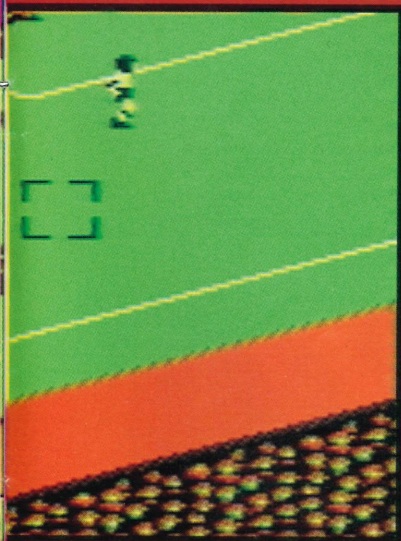
GAMEPLAY

PRESENTATION

LASTABILITY

OVERALL

90%



MEGA MANGA

YES IT'S THAT TIME OF MONTH AGAIN WHERE WE TAKE YOU ON A JOURNEY INTO THE VERY SICK MINDS OF SOME SERIOUSLY TALENTED ANIMATORS

Well this month nothing arrived in the post from our friends at Manga and to be perfectly honest with you it threw me into a bit of a tiff. What would I do? We promised to try and keep this entertaining and informative little section going as long as possible and if two months worth was all I could manage then I was for it. Besides what would my editor say. He's not known for his endearing qualities and forgiveness simply doesn't cross his mind. Well luckily for both me and you I happened to have a trick up my sleeve. Or to be exact I happened to have a few as yet unreviewed (By me) Manga vids up my sleeve. To make things even better they both happen to be corkers. Two of them are (18)s and the other is a (15). That is to say that in true Manga fashion they all contain enough animated Gore to really liven things up. You all must have heard of "Akira". This was the film that got me hooked on Manga stuff. It is possibly the greatest animated film ever to be produced. It really could have taught Walt Disney and his cronies a thing or two about true cartoon entertainment. OK, so it's not fun for all the family, your little sister and your mum may not be quite as enthralled as you and if you have a morally domineering aunt she'll have a fit, but it's simply superb with its visually sumptuous images and graphic action. Not only is it one of the best animated movies around but it's also possibly one of the best Cyberpunk, futuristic thrillers ever in any format. Well some say that "Wings Of Honneamise" is the best thing since, and quite frankly they're not too far off the mark. Is that praise enough for you? If not then simply read on and you'll get a chance to see what I think. I'm also taking a look at the first part in the three part O A V series "Cyber City Oedo 808". This is a seriously tense and thrilling romp through 29th century Tokyo following the antics of a three man Cyborg team, perfect ingredients for any futuristic



A MADNESS!

nutiness ,mmm exciting stuff or what ? Finally we look at "Devil Man" 55 minutes of superstitious horror . It's not often that you get the chance to see more of the magical side of Japanese storytelling in animated films . Nowadays it's much more about the futuristic ultra violence and destruction of an age gone wild with perhaps just a touch of the mystic thrown in for good measure . If Japanese legend and magical tales are up your street then this truly is the film for you . Well that leaves me with nothing else to do but start telling you all about these little gems . And what gems they truly are .

WINGS OF HONNEAMISE

This is one film with a seriously involving plot . It really is up there with Mangas finest ever releases . Yes it'll give Akira a run for its money in terms of enjoyment . You really walk away from this film feeling as though you've watched something incredible . It's not often nowa days that you see something that you can appreciate on the level of a simple entertaining film and something that actually makes you think a little bit . Wings Of Honnamise achieves this particularly well . It wraps up all sorts of emotions and moral questions along with a quest and a hero in a strange form to provide not only tense dramatic action but an undeniable symbolism that is barely hidden in the shape of another world so similar to our own . The connotations are all there ,and you don't have to dig to deep .The animation is as usual quite superb and really does blow you away . The story is set not on Earth but on an Alien world that is remarkably like our own planet and civilisation mmm heavy connections . It deals with the quest to go into space and the multiple forces acting on this seemingly simple objective . We soon discover that as usual all is not as it seems . Infact far from it . The race for space is being manipulated away from its pure scientific origins towards the expansionist policies of the ruling elites . This seems to be the same in



any conspiracy theory but it's a great line for any number of films. In the film we follow the young cadet Shiro Lhadt who is at the receiving end of a great deal of abuse when he signs up for the Royal Space Force. He falters but returns to his mission to be the first man in space when he receives some guidance from a young woman. Yes more mystery. Things hot up as the space programme falls under the threat of megalomaniacs looking for all out war.

CYBER CITY OEDO 808 **:File One - Virtual** **Death**

This is the first part in a three part series and it is a great introduction that will have you clamouring at a chance to buy the following episodes. It's not a short twenty minute tempter either, its running time is about forty minutes. And they're all packed with high tension and just enough unanswered questions to keep you entertained throughout the full running time. It's set in, and 2808 crime is rife. However there are new ways to deal with it. Criminals are taken by the State and deployed as crime fighters. These Cyborg criminals are fitted with explosive collars and sent on missions. Failure means instant death but success can mean shorter sentences. In this, the first of three episodes a mass murderer is chosen by the Cyber police to carry out a very dangerous mission. It seems that a mysterious Hacker has got into the security system of a huge skyscraper sending it haywire. 50,000 people are trapped in the building! Can they be saved? Can the mysterious hacker be located? Who is the hacker? and why is it that the only person with such computer know-how is meant to be dead? For the answers to all these questions and more tune in to Virtual Death available at all the best vid stores.

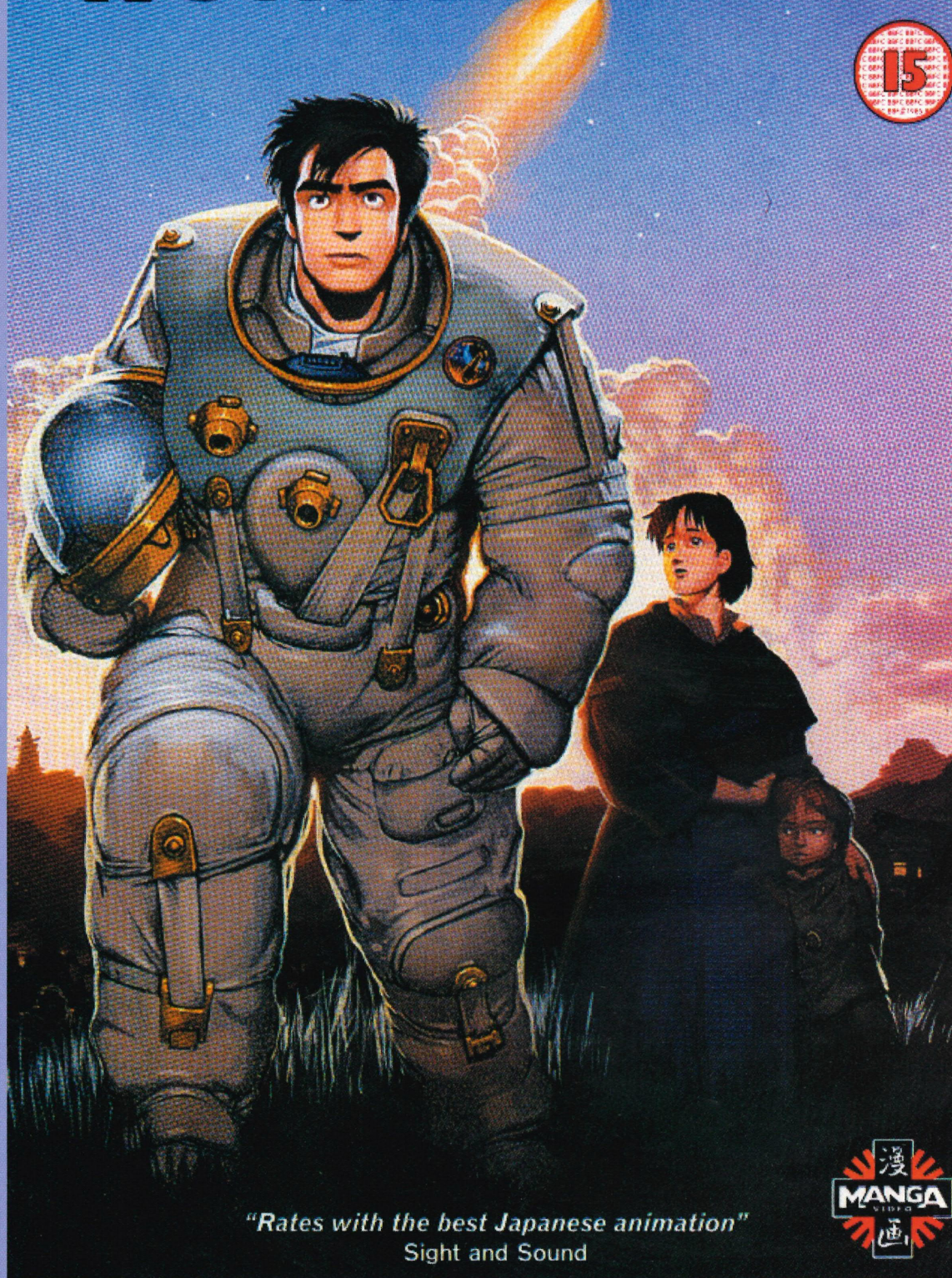
DEVIL MAN

Akira is a half human half demon character who has human interests at heart.

The polar ice-caps have been melting and this has led to some serious trouble as long trapped demons escape from the ice intent on destroying the world. Akira has the power to battle with them as does Kyo. Can these two save the planet? In order to do so they must battle many demons such as Gelmar who attacks Miki, Akira's girlfriend. This is an 18 and that says it all. Japanese mystical tales are some of the best and this goes a long way towards proving that fact. Oriental mystery is packaged with the endless battle between good and evil in this fine film. Serious animation and a neat story line make this a Manga must.

WINGS OF HONNEAMISE

15



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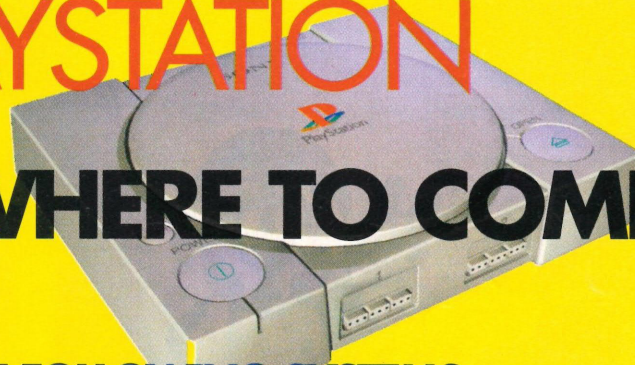
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MONSTER MAX

U S G I R G A N T I C E X T E N
the BEST GAMEBOY GAME EVER
"the most challenging game on the Gameboy ever" - Gamesmaster
I V E L A R G E E N O R M O U S
"the perfect game for the Gameboy" - TOTAL
96%

THANK YOU TO GB ACTION MAGAZINE FOR VOTING MONSTER MAX "THE BEST GAMEBOY GAME OF ALL TIME EVER" (Jan '95) IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT IT YET, GET IT NOW!

E V A S T G R A N D I O S E G
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94% GB Action
"the greatest game of the year..." - GB Action
"the most impressive cart of all time" - GB Action
"simply the best Gameboy title ever" - Super Gamer

So, without further ado - it's time to let the fanfares ring out as we present the GB Action Top Ten Game Boy Games Of All Time...

1. Monster Max - Titus
2. Legend of Zelda - Link's Awakening - Nintendo
3. Tetris - Nintendo
4. Micro Machines - Sony
5. Donkey Kong '94 - Nintendo

to get this FAR takes AGES



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